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ABSTRACT

A survey of 38 placement officers was undertaken to determine the status of job opportunities for elementary and secondary school teachers, and to see how the current (1979-1980) job market compared to that of previous years. The placement officers believed that: (1) Career opportunities for teachers had improved, and that teachers who were willing to move to find jobs could be employed; (2) The 1978 job market was better for elementary teachers and better or much better for secondary teachers than in 1977; and (3) The job market was better than it had been in 1975, and that it would be better still in 1980. Four tables showing the results of the survey are presented, providing information on teacher supply and demand by field and region, and relative demand by teaching field. (FG)

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ASCUS

Association for School, College and University Staffing

1980 ASCUS TEACHER SUPPLY/DEMAND REPORT
Survey of October 1979

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Survey of October, 1979

Reported January, 1980

ASCUS SURVEY COMMITTEE

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REPORT COMPILED BY Jim Akin

January, 1980

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1980 ASCUS TEACHER SUPPLY/DEMAND REPORT
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BACKGROUND

In 1976 the Executive Committee of the Association for School, College and University Staffing directed then president, Jim Akin, to develop teacher supply/demand information for dissemination to the ASCUS membership and to the public. A survey of the entire institutional and associate membership was conducted at that time and has become the prototype for the current annual teacher supply/demand survey. Comparisons in this report will include new data as well as information from the 1976, 1978, and 1979 reports.

PROCEDURE

A three-page survey instrument was developed and approved by an ASCUS ad hoc committee; this instrument was quite similar to the one which was used in 1976. Copies of the instrument were forwarded to selected placement officers in each of nine continental United States regions plus one going to Alaska and to Hawaii. In establishing the region boundaries, consideration was given to geography and to the number of teachers produced within the particular areas. A chart of regions is enclosed in this report. Of the 47 instruments mailed, 38 were returned in time for utilization in this report.

The survey requested supply/demand comparisons for both elementary and secondary teachers and of current teaching opportunities as compared to one and four years earlier. In addition, it asked for a comparison of current production of teachers as compared to that of 1969-70. Participants were asked to identify their level of agreement with statements relative to the job market for elementary and secondary teachers.

DATA PRESENTED

The data indicates that placement officers throughout the country believe that career opportunities for teachers has improved and that teachers who can and will go where the jobs are can be employed. Respondents generally indicated that last year's job market for teachers was better for elementary and better to much better for secondary when compared to one year earlier. They further indicated that the job market was much better for both elementary and secondary teachers than it had been four years earlier. They predicted that the job market for both elementary and secondary would be better for the teachers entering the market in the fall of 1980 than had been the case one year earlier.

The following questions were asked in the survey and the summary of responses are shown in Table 1:

1. In general terms, how available were employment opportunities for elementary and secondary teachers for the 1979-80 teaching year (last completed placement season) compared to those one year earlier?

2. In general terms, how available were employment opportunities for elementary and secondary teachers for the 1979-80 teaching year (last completed placement season) compared to those four years earlier (1975-76)?

3. In general terms, how are employment opportunities for elementary and secondary teachers thus far for the approaching 1980-81 teaching year (current placement season)?

TABLE 1, PERCENTAGE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS 1-3

	Question 1						Question 2						Question 3					
	Elementary			Secondary			Elementary			Secondary			Elementary			Secondary		
	78	79	80	78	79	80	78	79	80	78	79	80	78	79	80	78	79	80
Much Better	3	12	11	8	8	33	18	18	46	21	33	48	5	13	18	46	16	19
Better	49	23	53	56	51	50	32	51	26	39	37	34	42	27	58	38	30	50
Same	41	47	28	31	33	14	16	3	17	17	12	9	43	54	15	13	50	29
Worse	8	15	8	5	8	3	24	26	11	17	15	9	7	6	9	3	4	3
Much Worse	0	3	0	0	0	0	11	3	0	5	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

Within the Continental United States, all but 6% (2) of the respondents indicated that they strongly agreed or generally agreed with the statement, (Question 7) "Most secondary level teachers who could and would go where the jobs were obtained teaching employment for the 1979-80 teaching year (last completed placement season)." Fifty percent of the respondents (18) strongly agreed with that statement while 44% (16) generally agreed with it. Six percent (2) of the respondents generally disagreed with the statement. The representative from Hawaii generally disagreed and the representative from Alaska strongly agreed with the statement.

The respondents were nearly as strong in their acceptance of the statement, (Question 8) "Most elementary level teachers who could and would go where the jobs were obtained teaching employment for the 1979-80 teaching year (last completed placement season)." Forty-four percent (16) of the respondents strongly agree with that statement while 50% (18) generally agreed with it. Six percent (2) of the respondents generally disagreed with the statement. The representative from Hawaii strongly disagreed with the statement while the representative from Alaska generally disagreed with the statement.

Seventy-eight percent (28) of the respondents strongly agreed, 19% (7) generally agreed with the statement, (Question 9) "In staffing for the 1979-80 school year (last completed placement season) school personnel administrators had difficulty in obtaining adequate numbers of qualified candidates for positions in some fields or combinations of fields." Three percent (1) generally disagreed with this statement. The representative from Hawaii generally disagreed with the statement and the representative from Alaska strongly agreed with it.

Note: Information relative to survey questions 4-6 is provided throughout the report.

TABLE 2
PERCENTAGE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS 7 - 9

	Question 7						Question 8						Question 9					
	1978		1979		1980		1978		1979		1980		1978		1979		1980	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Strongly agree	15	38	21	55	18	50	13	33	19	50	16	44	21	54	26	67	28	78
Generally agree	22	56	15	39	16	44	19	49	14	37	18	50	13	33	12	31	7	19
Generally disagree	0	0	2	5	2	6	5	13	3	8	2	6	2	5	1	3	1	3
Strongly disagree	2	5	0	0	0	0	2	5	2	5	0	0	3	8	0	0	0	0
	39	100	38	99	36	100	39	100	38	100	36	100	39	100	39	101	36	100

Fifty percent (18) of the respondents indicated that compared to 1969-70 the production of elementary teachers was considerably decreased while 19% indicated that their production of elementary teachers was slightly decreased. Fourteen percent reported approximately the same production and 17% reported slightly increased production of elementary teachers during that period. The respondent from Hawaii reported a considerable decrease of 32% during that period while the report from Alaska showed no significant change in the production of teachers since the placement year 1969-70.

Seventy-five percent (27) of the respondents indicated that the production of secondary teachers had decreased since 1969-70. Fifty percent (18) indicated that it was considerably decreased while 25% (9) indicated that it was slightly decreased. Fourteen percent (5) indicated that their production of secondary teachers was approximately the same, 8% (3) indicated that it had slightly increased and 3% (1) said it had increased considerably. A considerable decrease of 51% in the production of secondary teachers was reported by the respondent in Hawaii while insignificant change was reported in Alaska for the nine-year period.*

Mathematics, industrial arts, and vocational agriculture continued to be identified in greatest demand with most special education and science areas following that group. Physical education, social sciences, and health education were shown to be in least demand.*

Table 3 provides supply/demand information by field and geographical region. Chart 1 provides a map of the regions used in this report.

Table 4 provides relative demand information by field in rank order and the amount of change since 1976.

It is hoped that the continuity of this survey through the years is useful to the reader in making comparisons. In addition, it is hoped that the addition of Table 4 providing rank order information with comparison data since 1976 will be useful.

* This information provided from survey questions 4-6.

CHART 1, ASCUS SUPPLY/DEMAND REGIONS MAP

AK = Alaska, HI = Hawaii, 1 = North West, 2 = West, 3 = Rocky Mountain, 4 = Great Plains/Midwest, 5 = South Central, 6 = South East, 7 = Great Lakes, 8 = Middle Atlantic, 9 = North East.

TABLE 3. TEACHER SUPPLY/DEMAND BY FIELD AND REGION - 1980 REPORT

(Based on October, 1979 Survey)

5.0 - considerable shortage, 4.0 - slight shortage, 3.0 - balanced, 2.0 - slight surplus, 1.0 - considerable surplus

REGIONS	AK	HI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Nationwide 1980	1979	1978	1976
Field															
Agriculture	2.0	4.0	4.67	-	-	5.0	4.5	4.33	5.0	-	-	4.73	4.67	4.69	4.06
Art	1.0	1.0	1/6	1.0	2.33	3.5	2.67	2.2	1.75	2.5	2.33	2.45	2.06	1.72	2.14
Bilingual Education	5.0	4.0	4.67	5.0	-	4.5	4.5	3.67	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.21	4.32	-	-
Business Education	5.0	4.0	4.25	4.0	4.0	3.5	3.33	3.2	4.4	4.0	3.0	3.80	3.65	3.52	3.10
Counselor - Elementary	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.0	4.5	3.0	3.33	3.6	4.0	-	2.33	3.38	2.96	3.00	3.15
Counselor - Secondary	2.0	3.0	3.6	3.25	4.5	4.0	3.0	3.4	4.4	3.0	2.33	3.76	3.03	3.31	2.69
Driver's Education	1.0	3.0	2.8	-	-	2.67	4.33	2.83	3.2	-	-	2.98	3.06	2.63	2.44
Elementary - Primary	1.0	1.0	2.6	3.0	2.33	3.63	3.0	2.4	2.6	1.5	1.25	2.77	2.19	2.84	1.78
Elementary - Intermediate	1.0	1.0	2.8	3.25	2.67	4.13	3.0	3.0	2.8	1.5	1.33	2.84	2.33	1.97	1.90
English	2.0	2.0	3.8	3.5	3.33	4.25	3.67	3.8	3.4	3.5	2.25	3.51	2.78	2.30	2.05
Health Education	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	-	1.67	-	2.75	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.17	2.16	2.38	2.27
Home Economics	5.0	1.0	2.75	2.67	-	2.67	2.67	2.50	3.0	-	3.5	2.85	2.67	2.37	2.62
Industrial Arts	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	-	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	-	5.0	4.77	4.68	4.65	4.22
Journalism	1.0	1.0	3.0	-	-	3.5	3.0	2.0	2.8	-	-	2.98	2.50	2.54	2.86
Language,Modern-French	1.0	2.0	2.2	2.25	2.5	3.75	2.5	2.75	3.0	3.0	2.0	2.68	2.49	2.15	2.15
Language,Modern-German	1.0	2.0	2.2	2.25	3.0	3.25	2.5	2.75	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.70	2.17	2.28	2.03
Language,Modern-Spanish	1.0	2.0	3.2	4.0	2.5	3.75	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.34	2.88	2.84	2.47
Language,Modern-Other	4.0	2.0	-	-	-	4.0	-	4.5	-	-	2.5	3.3	3.23	-	-
Library Science	4.0	2.0	3.0	2.5	4.0	4.0	-	3.67	3.88	-	1.5	3.58	4.26	-	-
Mathematics	4.0	3.0	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.0	4.80	4.68	4.40	3.86
Music - Instrumental	5.0	4.0	3.75	4.5	3.67	4.5	3.67	3.8	3.2	2.5	2.75	3.65	3.33	3.30	3.03
Music - Vocal	5.0	2.0	3.75	3.5	3.33	3.25	3.67	3.1	3.2	3.5	2.67	3.32	2.97	3.03	3.00

TABLE 3. TEACHER SUPPLY/DEMAND BY FIELD AND REGION - 1980 REPORT (cont.)

REGIONS	AK	HI	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Nationwide 1980	1979	1978	1976
Field															
Nursing	-	5.0	2.67	5.0	-	-	-	3.5	4.0	-	-	3.50	3.62	4.07	3.93
Physical Education	1.0	1.0	1.4	2.0	1.67	1.5	2.33	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.33	1.82	1.67	1.86	1.74
Psychologist	2.0	-	3.75	4.0	-	4.5	-	4.2	4.25	3.5	2.67	3.87	3.43	3.68	3.09
Science - Biology	3.0	4.0	3.2	3.75	3.0	3.75	4.67	3.2	3.6	4.0	2.75	3.50	3.49	3.11	2.97
Science - Chemistry	4.0	5.0	3.4	4.0	4.5	4.67	5.0	3.8	4.6	5.0	3.75	4.18	4.09	3.97	3.72
Science - Earth	3.0	4.0	2.8	3.0	4.33	3.75	4.67	3.4	3.8	4.0	4.50	3.64	3.82	3.50	3.44
Science - Physics	3.0	5.0	3.2	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.0	3.8	5.0	5.0	3.75	4.28	4.36	3.91	4.04
Science - General	-	-	-	-	-	4.33	-	3.5	4.33	-	3.0	4.10	4.00	-	-
Social Science	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.33	2.0	2.5	4.0	2.4	2.2	1.5	1.38	1.98	1.83	1.51	1.51
Social Work	-	-	2.33	-	2.0	3.0	-	3.5	2.25	3.0	-	2.50	2.00	2.35	2.32
Speech	1.0	1.0	2.4	2.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	2.4	2.0	3.5	2.5	2.50	2.47	2.48	2.46
Special - Deaf	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special - Ed (PSA)	5.0	-	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.67	4.25	4.67	3.5	3.33	4.36	4.22	3.96	3.42
Special - Gifted	5.0	-	-	4.0	5.0	4.0	4.67	4.0	4.5	-	5.0	4.33	4.56	3.95	3.85
Special - LD	5.0	4.0	3.75	4.67	4.0	5.0	4.33	4.8	5.0	3.5	4.0	4.48	4.50	4.45	4.00
Special - MR	5.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	4.25	4.33	4.2	4.2	3.5	4.0	4.23	4.39	3.52	2.87
Special - Multiple Handicapped	5.0	5.0	4.67	-	-	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.75	-	4.0	3.87	3.24	-	-
Special - Reading	5.0	-	-	4.33	5.0	4.33	4.67	4.2	4.6	3.5	3.33	4.23	4.27	4.09	3.96
Special - Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	4.38	-	-
Speech Path/Audiology	5.0	4.0	-	5.0	-	4.67	4.0	4.5	4.8	3.5	3.0	4.17	3.83	3.83	3.68
COMPOSITE	3.23	2.82	3.19	3.38	3.61	3.78	3.78	3.48	3.60	1.57	2.84				

Regions are coded as follows: AK-Alaska, HI-Hawaii, 1-Northwest, 2-West, 3-Rocky Mountain, 4-Great Plains/Midwest, 5-South Central, 6-South East, 7-Great Lakes, 8-Middle Atlantic, 9-North East. Alaska and Hawaii are not included the combined annual totals.

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TABLE 4. RELATIVE DEMAND BY TEACHING AREA - 1980 REPORT

Based upon the ASCUS report dated October, 1979
Elementary & Secondary Supply/Demand Survey

	1980	1979	1978	1976
Teaching fields with considerable teacher shortage.....(5.00 - 4.25):				
Mathematics	4.80	4.68	4.40	3.86
Industrial Arts	4.77	4.68	4.65	4.22
Vocational Agriculture	4.73	4.67	4.69	4.06
Special Education - LD	4.48	4.50	4.45	4.00
Special Education - PSA	4.36	4.22	3.96	3.42
Special Education - Gifted	4.33	4.56	3.95	3.85
Science - Physics	4.28	4.36	3.91	4.04
Teaching Fields with slight teacher shortage.....(4.24 - 3.45):				
Special Education - MR	4.23	4.39	3.52	2.87
Special Education - Reading	4.23	4.27	4.09	3.96
Bilingual Education	4.21	4.32	-	-
Science - Chemistry	4.18	4.09	3.97	3.72
Speech Correction	4.17	3.83	3.83	3.68
Science - General	4.10	4.00	-	-
Special Education-Multiple Handicapped	3.87	3.24	-	-
School Psychologist	3.87	3.43	3.68	3.09
Business	3.80	3.65	3.52	3.10
Counselor - Secondary	3.76	3.03	3.31	2.69
Music - Instrumental	3.65	3.33	3.30	3.03
Science - Earth	3.64	3.82	3.50	3.44
Library Science	3.58	4.26	-	-
English	3.51	2.78	2.30	2.05
School Nurse	3.50	3.62	4.07	3.93
Science - Biology	3.50	3.49	3.11	2.97

TABLE 4. RELATIVE DEMAND BY TEACHING AREA - 1980 REPORT (cont.)

	1980	1979	1978	1976
Teaching fields with balanced supply and demand.....(3.44 - 2.65):				
Counselor - Elementary	3.38	2.96	3.00	3.15
Language, Modern-Spanish	3.34	2.88	2.84	2.47
Language, Modern-Other	3.33	3.23	-	-
Music - Vocal	3.32	2.97	3.03	3.00
Driver's Education	2.98	3.06	2.63	2.44
Journalism	2.98	2.50	2.54	2.86
Home Economics	2.85	2.67	2.37	2.62
Elementary - Intermediate	2.84	2.33	1.97	1.90
Elementary - Primary	2.77	2.19	1.84	1.78
Language, Modern-German	2.70	2.17	2.28	2.03
Language, Modern-French	2.68	2.49	2.15	2.15
Teaching fields with slight surplus of teachers.....(2.64 - 1.85):				
Social Work	2.50	2.00	2.35	2.32
Speech	2.50	2.47	2.48	2.46
Art	2.45	2.06	1.72	2.14
Health Education	2.17	2.16	2.38	2.27
Social Science	1.98	1.83	1.51	1.51
Teaching field with considerable surplus of teachers.....(1.84 - 1.0):				
Physical Education	1.82	1.67	1.86	1.74

5 = Greatest Demand, 1 = Least Demand

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